UDOT RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT REPORT ABSTRACT

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16. Abstract

The following technical report, prepared by the research division, is on the subject of barrier delineators and their field performance. This summary of a one-year experimental field study is followed by a recommendation by the research department for a more durable barrier delineator.

The objective of this project was to find a more durable, cost-effective top-mounting barrier delineator to help solve an existing maintenance problem with barrier delineators. Problem have been reported, by the maintenance divisions, that barrier delineators were being damaged by snow removal operations. Research was done to find some possible alternatives to the current barrier delineator being used. Six different barrier delineators were tested including the current one being used. The six mile long test section was located at approximately mile marker 114 on eastbound I-80 by the Salt Lake International airport. Approximately thirty replicates of each of the six experimental barrier delineators were mounted on top of the concrete barriers and bridge parapets of the test section in July of 1996. After one winter season, the final data was collected and some conclusions were made. The Flexx 2020 barrier delineator would be an ideal choice if a side mounting barrier delineator was ever needed. This delineator would also be a good choice for a top mounting barrier delineator for temporary barriers. For permanent barriers, the extruded aluminum barrier delineator would be an excellent choice due to its durability. The use of these recommended barrier delineators will reduce the life cycle maintenance costs and will lead to a noticeable time savings.

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